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Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 193912
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011
DRAFTED BY: S/S-PTARNOFF
APPROVED BY: MR TARNOFF
----------055164 161729Z /50
O 161714Z AUG 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 193912

NODIS
CHEROKEE EYES ONLY FOR DICK MOOSE

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM PRETORIA DTD 16 AUG 1977 QTE

S E C R E T PRETORIA 4120

NODIS CHEROKEE

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR BOWDLER

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: RH, PDEV
SUBJECT: MESSAGE TO FON MIN BOTHA

REF: STATE 193176,

1. I RELAYED YOUR MESSAGE TO PIK BOTHA AT 8:30 A.M. BEFORE HE WENT INTO CABINET MEETING.

2. HE WAS PLEASED WITH POSITIVE REACTION AND ASKED ME TO PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE: "WHY DON'T YOU SET THE MACHINERY IN MOTION? DO YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS ON WHEN AND WHERE?"
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3. PIK SAID THAT WHEN HE SPOKE TO YOU YESTERDAY HE MENTIONED THAT HE HOPED THE MEETING WOULD TAKE PLACE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE NOTED THAT THE RHODESIANS WERE PRESSING HIM FOR A BRIEFING ON THE LONDON TALKS. HE WAS PUTTING THEM OFF BUT HE WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO VISIT SALISBURY ON THURSDAY. HE DID NOT LOOK FORWARD TO THIS SINCE IN LINE WITH HIS PLEDGE TO YOU AND DAVID

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OWEN HE COULD NOT DISCUSS THE PROPOSALS EXCEPT IN THE MOST
GENERAL TERMS OR LET ON THAT HE HAS THE TEXT.

4. PIK ALSO BROUGHT UP THE TIMING FOR GAZETTING THE
ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL FOR NAMIBIA. HE SAID HE MENTIONED
THIS TO YOU YESTERDAY. HE CLAIMED THE PM HAD PROMISED
JUDGE STEYN THAT HE COULD PICK HIS DATE. STEYN WANTED
THE OFFICIAL DESIGNATION TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE
OF AUGUST 23 SO THAT HE COULD ASSUME HIS DUTIES IN
TIME TO OPEN THE NON-POLITICAL, MULTI-RACIAL SWA AGRICULTURAL
FAIR ON SEPTEMBER 1 AS HIS FIRST OFFICIAL ACT. PIK SAID HE
HAD STOPPED THE GAZETTING FOR THAT DATE AS HE DID NOT WANT THIS
MATTER TO PREJUDICE ARRANGEMENTS FOR A SUMMIT MEETING. HE
DOUBTED WHETHER HE COULD HOLD OFF THE STEYN DESIGNATION
BEYOND SEPTEMBER 1.

5. PIK ALSO EXPRESSED "DEEP CONCERN" OVER A CONVERSATION
JOHN GRAHAM HAD WITH DAVID LOW (SAG CHARGE IN LONDON)
YESTERDAY. PIK SAID THAT GRAHAM HAD INTRODUCED THE
CONECPT OF A UN ROLE IN INTEGRATING THE VARIOUS RHODESIAN
FORCES (EXISTING SMITH GOVERNMENT FORCES AND PATRIOTIC
FRONT UNITS) DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD. READING PARA-
GRAPH 11(C) OF THE PROPOSALS, HE SAID THAT NO MENTION
WAS MADE OF THIS CONCEPT WHICH WAS CERTAIN TO CAUSE
SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES WITH SMITH. HE HOPES THAT THIS
WAS A MISUNDERSTANDING ON THE PART OF LOW WHO IS NEW TO THE JOB.
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BRAND FOURIE WOULD BE CALLING GRAHAM FOR CLARIFICATION.
BOWDLER UNQTE VANCE

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NNN

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 16-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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SAS ID: 1586966
Secure: LOCK1
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Subject: MESSAGE TO FON MIN BOTHA
TAGS: PDEV, PDIP, RH, (BOTHA, A P)
To: LONDON
Type: TE
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